

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00737 180854Z

20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00

XMB-02 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 /074 W

----- 070535

O 180753Z APR 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3600

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 737

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 1FPRLC GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH KN

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS FOR KIM IL SUNGWHS PEKING VISIT

1. IN THE FEW DAYS SINCE THE SUDDEN ANNOUNCEMENT IN PEKING OF KIM IL SUNG'S VISIT, THERE HAS BEEN INTENSE SPECULATION WITHIN THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AS TO THE MOTIVATIONS FOR THE VISIT. AMONG THE MORE CREDIBLE THEORIES ARE: 1) THE CHINESE ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE THEIR TOP LEADERSHIP, BOTH OLD AND NEW, MEET THE KOREAN LEADERSHIP BEFORE MAO AND CHOU DEPART FROM THE SCENE; 2) THE KOREANS WANT TO PRESS THE CHINESE FOR BADLY NEEDED ECONOMIC AID (THE DPRK IS NOW IN DEFAULT OF \$300 MILLION IN PAYMENTS TO EUROPEAN BUSINESS INTERESTS); 3) THE CHINESE MIGHT WISH TO PUT A RECOVERED MAO TSE-TUNG ON DISPLAY BEFORE THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND THE WORLD UNDER SUITABLY IMPRESSIVE CIRCUMSTANCES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 00737 180854Z

2. HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE ADDITIONAL THEORY WHICH WE BELIEVE DESERVES CAREFUL ATTENTION: IN THE WAKE OF THE INDO-CHINA SITUATION, KIM IL SUNG FEELS THAT THE MOMENT IS NOW RIPE TO AGHLY FORCE TO UNIFY KOREA AND ACCORDINGLY HAS PRESSED T M CHINESE FOR AN INVITATION TO VISIT PEKING SO HE CAN ARGUE HIS CASE WITH THEM AND SECURE THEIR SUPPORT. PROPONENTS OF THIS THEORY BASE THEIR HYPOTHESIS ON THE KNOWN BLOODY-MINDEDNESS OF KIM IL SUNG, THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR THE VISIT CAME FROM THE KOREANS RATHER THAN THE CHINESE (THE BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN PEKING APRIL 19 AND THE CHINESE CUSTOMARILY DO NOT LIKE TO RUN TWO HIGH-LEVEL VISITS OF THIS NATURE SO CLOSELY TOGETHER), AND THE FACT THAT SENIOR DPRK MILITARY MEN ARE INCLUDED AMONG THE MANY PEOPLE IN KIM IL SUNG'S ENTOURAGE. DIPLOMATS HERE WHO HAVE CONTACTS WITH PYONGYANG SAY THAT POLITICAL REALITIES IN THE DPRK ARE SUCH THAT ONLY KIM CAN UNDERTAKE MAJOR POLICY STEPS, AND THEREFORE WOULD NEED TO TALK TO THE CHINESE IN PERSON ON A MATTER INVOLVING THEIR BACKING HIM IN THE EXERCISE OF FORCE. THE ISSUE COUPD NORSE HANDLED SATISFACTORILY THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

3. IF KIM IL SUNG'S PUCO9 3 8,\$33\$ 8 - 975)8,3\$ 8, 0-4- 2, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOME INKLING OF IT FROM HIS SPEECH AT THE CHINESEHTOLCOMING BANQUET TONIGHT AT THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE. WE SHOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO DETERMINE SOMETHING OF THE CHINESE RESPONSE FROM THE SPEECH OF WHATEVER HIGH-RANKING CHINESE DELIVERS THE WELCOMING ADDRESSEES. FOREIGN

MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA MET KIM IL SUNG AT THE KOREAN BORDER AND IS TRAVELING WITH HIM TO GIDSNG, SO THE CHINESE BY NOW MUST HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT IS ON KIM'S MIND. ASSUMING PRC FOREIGN POLICY REMAINS ESSENTIALLY ON THE SAME TRACK AS CHOU EN-LAI'S REPORT TO THE 4TH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DESPITE INDO-CHINA DEVELOPMENTS, THE CHINESE WILL HAVE TO WALK A TIGHT LINE IN ON THEXBUNE HAND APPEARING TO GIVE DUE APPROVAL TO THE POLICIES OF THEIR FRATERNAL GUEST WHILE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 00737 180854Z

ON THE OTHER NOT COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO A COURSE WHICH WOULD RISK IN JEOPARDIZING THE WHOLE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. AND STIRRING UP ENORMOUS SHOCK WAVES IN JAPAN.

4. USLO WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER ON THE KIM IL SUNG VISIT WHEN MORE INFORMATION BECOMES KNOWN.
HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PEKING00737
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750136-0311
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750438/aaaabiyq.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS FOR KIM IL SUNG WHS PEKING VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, CH, KN, (SUNG, KIM IL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006